T-6. Implement Commute Trip Reduction Program (Mandatory Implementation and Monitoring)

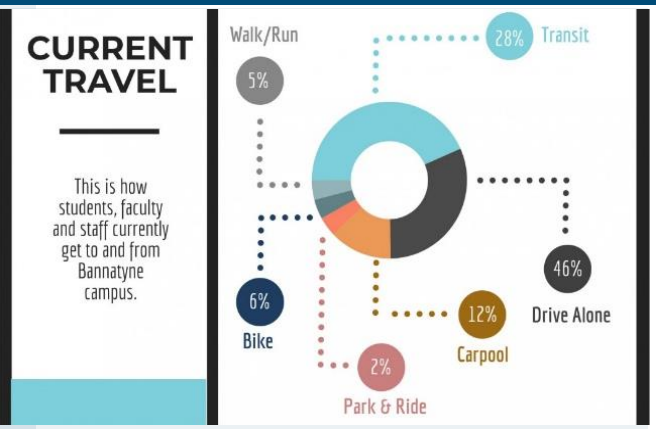

Photo Credit: University of Manitoba, 2018

GHG Mitigation Potential

Up to 26.0% of GHG emissions from project/site employee commute VMT

Co-Benefits (icon key on pg. 34)

Climate Resilience

Commute trip reduction programs could result in less traffic, potentially reducing congestion or delays on major roads during peak AM and PM traffic periods. When this reduction occurs during extreme weather events, it better allows emergency responders to access a hazard site. Lower transportation costs would also increase community resilience by freeing up resources for other purposes.

Health and Equity Considerations

Design of CTR programs needs to consider existing mobility options in diverse communities and ensure equitable access and benefit to all employees.

Measure Description

This measure will implement a mandatory CTR program with employers. CTR programs discourage single-occupancy vehicle trips and encourage alternative modes of transportation such as carpooling, taking transit, walking, and biking, thereby reducing VMT and GHG emissions.

Subsector

Trip Reduction Programs

Locational Context

Urban, suburban

Scale of Application

Project/Site

Implementation Requirements

The mandatory CTR program must include all other elements (i.e., Measures T-7 through T-11) described for the voluntary program (Measure T-5) plus include mandatory trip reduction requirements (including penalties for non-compliance) and regular monitoring and reporting to ensure the calculated VMT reduction matches the observed VMT reduction.

Cost Considerations

Employer costs may include recurring, direct costs for transit subsidies, capital and maintenance costs for alternative transportation infrastructure, and labor costs for staff to manage the program. If the local municipality has a mandatory VMT reduction ordinance, additional employer costs could include non-compliance penalties if the municipality fines CTR programs that do not meet a VMT goal. Municipal costs may include the labor costs for government staff to track the efficacy of the program, which may be outweighed by revenue generated from fines collected from non-compliant businesses.

Expanded Mitigation Options

This program typically serves as a complement to the more effective workplace CTR measures, such as pricing workplace parking (Measure T-12) or implementing employee parking "cash-out" (Measure T-13).

GHG Reduction Formula

$A = B \times C \times D$

GHG Calculation Variables

ID	Variable	Value	Unit	Source
Output				
A	Percent reduction in GHG emissions from project/site employee commute VMT	0–26.0	%	calculated
User Inputs				
B	Percent of employees eligible for program	0–100	%	user input
Constants, Assumptions, and Available Defaults				
C	Percent reduction in vehicle mode share of employee commute trips	-26	%	Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates 2015
D	Adjustment from vehicle mode share to commute VMT	1	unitless	assumed

Further explanation of key variables:

- (B) – This refers to the percent of employees that would be able to participate in the program. This will usually be 100 percent. Employees who might not be able to participate could include those who work nighttime hours when transit and rideshare services are not available or employees who are required to drive to work as part of their job duties. This input does not refer to the percent of employees who participate in the program.
- (C) – A multiyear study of mode share on Genentech's South San Francisco campuses tracked the long-run change in employee commute mode share with implementation of mandatory CTR. Between 2006 and 2014, employee vehicle mode share (includes single-occupied vehicles and carpools) decreased from approximately 90 percent to 64 percent, which is a 26 percent reduction (Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates 2015).
- (D) – The adjustment factor from vehicle mode share to commute VMT is 1. This assumes that all vehicle trips will average out to typical trip length. Thus, it can be assumed that a percentage reduction in vehicle trips will equal the same percentage reduction in VMT.

GHG Calculation Caps or Maximums

Measure Maximum

(A_{max}) The maximum GHG reduction from this measure is 26 percent. This maximum scenario is presented in the below example quantification.

Subsector Maximum

($\sum A_{max_{T\text{-}5 \text{ through } T\text{-}13}} \leq 45\%$) This measure is in the Trip Reduction Programs subsector. This subcategory includes Measures T-5 through T-13. The employee commute VMT reduction from the combined implementation of all measures within this subsector is capped at 45 percent.

Mutually Exclusive Measures

If this measure is selected, the user may not also take credit for Measure T-5, which represents the same implementation activities as Measure T-5, except that the CTR program would be mandatory. Users should select either Measure T-5 or T-6.

If this measure is selected, the user may not also take credit for Measures T-7 through T-11. Measure T-6 accounts for the combined GHG reductions achieved by each of these individual measures. To combine the GHG reductions from T-6 with any of these measures would be considered double counting. However, the user may take credit for Measure T-12 and T-13 within the larger CTR subcategory, so long as the combined VMT reduction does not exceed 45 percent, as noted above.

Example GHG Reduction Quantification

The user reduces employee commute VMT by requiring that the employer of the proposed project offer a mandatory CTR program to their employees. In this example, the percent of employees eligible (B) is 100 percent, which would reduce GHG emissions from employee commute VMT by 26 percent.

$$A = 100\% \times -26\% \times 1 = -26\%$$

Quantified Co-Benefits

Improved Local Air Quality

The percent reduction in GHG emissions (A) would be the same as the percent reduction in NO_X, CO, NO_2, SO_2, and PM. Reductions in ROG emissions can be calculated by multiplying the percent reduction in GHG emissions (A) by an adjustment factor of 87 percent. See *Adjusting VMT Reductions to Emission Reductions* above for further discussion.

Energy and Fuel Savings

The percent reduction in vehicle fuel consumption would be the same as the percent reduction in GHG emissions (A).

VMT Reductions

The percent reduction in VMT would be the same as the percent reduction in GHG emissions (A).

Sources

- Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates. 2015. *Genentech–South San Francisco Campus TDM and Parking Report*. June. Available: http://ci-ssf-ca.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=859&meta_id=62028. Accessed: January 2021.